

IN THE CLAIMS: See Listing of Claims. This listing will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

REMARKS

It is the position of the Office that the application pertains to a plurality of patentably distinct inventions. The Applicants **traverse** this conclusion on the grounds that a chemist would not find the instant invention to involve structurally distinct inventions. Absent contradictory evidence that those skilled in the art would find the instant invention to consist of multiple inventions, it is submitted that the Office Requirement is not substantiated.

The Applicants respectfully submit that **Group I** is drawn to compositions comprising a **single**, γ -crystalline form of perindopril tert-butylamine salt, **Group II** is drawn to a process of making the **single**, γ -crystalline form of perindopril tert-butylamine salt, and **Group III** is drawn to a method of using the **single**, γ -crystalline form of perindopril tert-butylamine salt. It is, however, the position of the Office that "each of Groups I-III is distinct and independent product, process of making or methods of use one from the other..." and that "...because of the plethora of classes and subclasses in each of the Groups, a serious burden is imposed on the examiner to perform a complete search of the defined areas."

The applicants **traverse** this conclusion on the grounds that the disclosure demonstrates the criticality of the instant process (**Group II**) with respect to yield and purity of the resulting **single**, γ -crystalline form of perindopril tert-butylamine. Moreover, the Applicants assert that the method claims of **Group III** are also part of the claimed invention. An important characteristic of the substances of **Group I** is their pharmacological activity, which activity is claimed in the form of method claims. Absent contradictory evidence that those skilled in the art would find the instant invention to consist of multiple inventions, it is submitted that the Office Requirement is not substantiated. Reconsideration and withdrawal are respectfully solicited.

Nonetheless, in the absence of a favorable decision on the above-noted request for reconsideration and in an effort to advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Applicants elect **with traverse** to prosecute the invention of **Group I** (Claims 12, 20, and 22-23), drawn to compounds of formula (I), of the Restriction Requirement. Applicants designate the species of Example 1, γ -crystalline form of perindopril tert-butylamine salt (i.e., the single compound of instant Claim 12), as representative of **Group I**. Moreover, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include at least one method of treatment claim from **Group III** for simultaneous prosecution with the substance claims of **Group I**, which inclusion is the well settled practice of the Office. The Applicants hereby designate the claim to treatment of *cardiovascular disease* for such examination.

Absent a favorable decision upon reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner may withdraw the non-elected subject matter, without prejudice to its rejoinder during later examination and/or prosecution in a Divisional Application.

With the instant Amendment, the Applicants provide a new Listing of Claims to correct the omission of Claims 1-11 in the Listing of Claims included with the Preliminary Amendment of March 29, 2004, which was submitted with the filing papers of the instant application. The Applicants note that Claims 1-11 are indicated as "canceled," and Claims 12-23 are indicated as "previously presented."

Finally, with the instant Response, the Applicants also submit an Information Disclosure Statement which, it is respectfully submitted, should materially advance and accelerate the prosecution of the above-identified application. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As will be noted, this Information Disclosure Statement calls a number of references, which might be considered relevant, to the attention of the Examiner. The fact that these are in fact "Prior Art" is, however, not admitted.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Accordingly, entry of the present Election and Amendment into the record of this application and favorable action on the merits thereof, are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Form PTO-1449 and Accompanying References, Check No. 74405 for
IDS Fee, Listing of Claims, and Postal Card Receipt

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OR ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED (DUE TO OMISSION,
DEFICIENCY, OR OTHERWISE), OR TO CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO
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